

(b) whether the Institute has given to understand the electricity boards that if their proposal at (a) above is followed it would pay back the cost to the Boards within three years; and

(c) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). A paper has been received from the International Institute of Energy Conservation in which potential savings of electricity in the agriculture sector through deployment of efficient pumps complying with the BIS specifications and also by replacing the inefficient pumpsets has been identified. According to this paper the total savings potential would be 11 TWH per year or about 1/3rd of the electricity consumption in electric irrigation pumping.

Government is already aware about the energy saving potential due to replacement of inefficient agriculture pumpsets and has already sponsored a number of schemes for rectification of such pumpsets, to a limited extent, in the country.

Proposal to Broadcast Programmes in Manipuri

4044. SHRI YAJMA SINGH YUMNAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to broadcast news and programmes of entertainment in Manipuri for the benefit of the Manipuri inhabitants in Assam, Tripura, West Bengal and Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND

BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) No, Sir. However, cultural programmes of Manipur are given in national network depicting rich culture in songs and dances for all viewers of national network.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Transposer on Hills Near Gunadala in Vijayawada

4045. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received representations for setting up transposer equipment on the hill near the Gunadala in Vijayawada city, Andhra Pradesh to cover the shadow zones; and

(b) if so, the time by which transposer equipment is likely to be installed to help T.V. viewers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A TV transposer has already been functioning at Gandhi hill in Vijayawada city for strengthening TV service to areas falling under shadow zones. Establishment of another transposer for providing better TV reception to shadow areas caused due to Gunadala hill would depend upon future availability of resources for the purpose.

Newly Set up NPTC

4046. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly set up National

Power Transmission Corporation has formulated a scheme to raise Rs. 7,000 crores in foreign exchange during the Eighth Five Year Plan period from external borrowings to finance its projects; and

(b) if so, the extent the NPTC has been able to raise the foreign exchange and what are the projects that are likely to be funded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). Proposals of National Power Transmission Corporation for the Eighth Five Year Plan have not been finalised so far.

Priority to Rural Communications

4047. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to accord priority to rural communications; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount allocated for it, if any?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to make telephone available practically on demand in the rural areas by the end of 8th Five year Plan (1992-97). Government have planned to provide telephone facility to all Panchayat villages in the country progressively by 31.3.1995. A total outlay of Rs. 6800 crores has been proposed for this work.

Doordarshan Programmes to Neighbouring Countries

4048. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge investment plan is being worked out by his Ministry in consultation with the department of telecommunications to build up the infrastructure for extending the reach of Doordarshan programmes to the neighbouring countries;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed plan; and

(c) the time by which the plan is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

S.P.G. Cover to Former Prime Ministers

4049. SHRI SHANKERSINGH VAGHELA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether SPG cover is being provided to former Prime Ministers, S/Shri Morarji Desai, V.P. Singh and Chandra Shekhar;

(b) the details of family members of these former Prime Ministers who are presently being provided SPG cover;

(c) the details of the family members of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi and Shri Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Ministers who are being provided SPG cover;

(d) whether the family members of late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, former Prime Minister, are entitled for similar security; and